paying taxes as they are not running with any profit motive. This Board is functioning to safeguard the interests of the poor workers who are being benefited now.

SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY (Tripura West) : It has been reported that several extremist groups like the ATTF and NLFT of Tripura and ULFA of Assam have called a bandh on 15th August 1997 in all the North-Eastern States. They have sought the help of other extremist groups of the region to join them in their call. This is a serious threat to sovereignty and integrity of the country.

It is needless to mention that imperlalist forces are behind all these heinous activities of the extremists. Operation Brahmaputra launched by them was designed nearly two decades back with the specific aim to dismember India and weaken the country.

I urge upon Parliament and the Government of India to strongly condemn this anti-national activity of the extremist and secessionist forces operating in the North - East. I also call upon the Central Government to extend all out help to the State Governments of the region in their bid to combat the extremists and spoil their nefarious activities.

[Translation]

SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH (Mujaffarnagar) : I while endorsing the views put forth by the Hon. Member on the Employment Assurance Scheme, take this debate ahead. Though the funds are made available for providing employment but it is not possible to provide employment due to prevailing corruption in this scheme. In fact, this scheme is the mother of all corruption. The district administration has to carry out several government works, therefore it is not able to provide funds for developmental works. The Government's failure in providing funds in time also gives way for large scale corruption. More than half of the funds earmarked for this scheme goes into the coffers of the Government officers. Therefore, through you I would earnestly request the Government that the funds allocated by the Union Government under this scheme should be spent with the approval of the local M.P the guidelines laid down in regard should be adhered to.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I would request you to issue directives to the Government in this regard.....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now it is Shri Ramshakal Ji turn to speak.....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMSHAKAL (Robertsganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, large scale bunglings have been committed in whatever schemes have been launched by the Government of India in the rural areas in my Constituency, Robertsganj. The officers have been involved on large scale corruption in these schemes. The labourers working on the works being undertaken in the district under the Jawahar Rojgar Yojana, ten lakh Wells Scheme and Assured Employment Scheme are not even been being paid full wages at the rate of Rs. 47 per day. The funds allocated for the ten lakh well scheme are being looted in collusion with officers and contractors people's representative does not know even how much amount was received by the district under the Assured Employment Scheme and the Schemes on which for said amount was spent. All work is being done on paper. Therefore I would like to request the Union Government through you that a technical inquiry should be get conducted into the works being carried out under various schemes and the labourers working on these schemes should be given proper wages through the District Collector.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ramvilas Vedanti. Shri Ramvilas Vedanti

.....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your name has been called twice. Yours is the case of railways. Please speak on the railway budget.

The leader of the House should sit in his allotted seat. It would be better if the leader of the House sits in his allotted seat.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (Kanpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, how callous is the attitude of the Union Government towards the States where there are the Governments of the opposition parties. I would like to give an example of Uttar Pradesh in this context.

Kanpur, has apopulation of 40 lakh, there has been an acute shortage of drinking water. In the tenth Lok Sabha, after a great deal of efforts, the then Union Water Resources Minister the Hon. Vidayacharan Shukla visited Kanpur on January 20, 1994 and sanctioned the scheme of constructing a barrage across the Ganges. 50 per cent of the expenditure thereon was to be borne by the Union Government and the remaining 50 per cent by the State Government. There were three objectives of this barrage. One was constructing a barrage on the river, the estimated cost to be incurred thereon was Rs.173 crore .....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHARIMAN : Vedantiji, you please take your seat. Your name was called twice but you were not there. Now you will get a chance after pappu Yadavji.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : A scheme was formulated by the Jal Nigam to solve the drinking water problem of Kanpur on which a sum of Rs. 60 crore was to be incurred. In the aggregate it was a scheme of Rs. 233 crore. And this burden was to be borne by the Union Government and the State Government on 50-50 per cent basis. In the first phase the Union Government provided only Rs. 4 crore and whereas the State Government has spent Rs. 24.24 crore so far but the share of the Union Government has not been received as a result of which a question mark has been put on the fate of this barrage which is being constructed by the Irrigation Department

and it has hampered the pace of work. The construction work has already been delayed. As a result of delay its cost has been escalated. Therefore I would like to urge the Union Government and demand that it should immediately provide the requisite amount to the Uttar Pradesh Government so that the work which has been slowed down on the construction of barrage on the Ganges is taken up with full speed and the work is completed on time.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, due to idleness and short-sightedness of the National Textile Corporation..... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You will get a chance. The thing is that, Asim Balaji, your name is already there in the list. The member of the other party have been accommodated. Shri Badal Choudhury of your party has already spoken. You will also get a chance.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : The mills operating under the National Textile Corporation are almost closed or on the verge of closure. The mills in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh are already lying closed. In this sequence two more mills of Madhya Pradesh have been closed. One each in Ujjain and Indore. Their revival plans have also been submitted time and again. Repeated requests have also been made to the Government. Despite that there has been no improvement in the position of the N.T.C. I request the Government that the mills operating under the N.T.C. should be made viable and sufficient assistance should be provided for their revival so that they could restart their work otherwise the existing crisis prevailing before thousands of workers would further deepen which may lead to unrest among the workers.

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA (Navadwip) : Thank you, Sir.

Some Bengali refuggee-widows with their small children, after the death of their husbands, crossed over to India from the erstwhile East Pakistan, which is now, Bangladesh. They have been given Eligibility Certificates and Permanent Rehabilitation Numbers.

Eighty such Bengali refugee-widow families along with their minor children were brought to Karnal in Haryana in 1968. The Government of India had given some plans for rehabilitation. But in 1986 a landmark agreement was made and signed by Shri S P Chandra, the Director, Social Welfare Department, Haryana for addtional rehabilitation. It is very sad that the Government of Haryana has passed eviction orders on 28.07.1997 and so, police force was deployed at the Mahila Ashram, Karnal; and the sons of the widows were stopped from entering the Mahila Ashram, Karnal. So, they remain outside the Ashram which means in the street or in the open air.

In view of this, action may please be taken against the Director, Social Security and Defence, Haryana for violation of the agreement of 1986, signed by then Director, Social Welfare Department, Haryana. Due to this, mental and physical torture, harassment, exploitation, etc., are going on against the bengali refugee-families who remain in the Mahila Ashram. Their sons may also please be allowed inside the Ashram.

Therefore, I would like to urge the Government through you, Sir, that the Central Government may send a message to the Haryana Government to rehabilitate them immediately. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (Purnea) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have already raised this issue last time, therefore I will not allow you more time.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (Purnea) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have just said that there has been discussion on this issue for two days. But I would like to point out that though the said discussion is going on, but no solution to the problem seems to come out.

MR.CHAIRMAN : Please, make your point.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : But there is nobody here to listen my point. You all are aware of the situation arising out of flood. I belong to Purnea Constituency, adjoining the districts like Sahrasa, Madhepura and Katihar, all are severely affected by the flood. When we want to approach Deputy Collector or any concerned officer there, nobody is ready to listen to us.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Pappu, we have already had discussion on natural calamities for two days in which you did not take part. Today, you are raising the same issue again. You are requested to let the other Members raise some other issues. Now I am giving you a chance despite the fact that there had been a discussion on this issue for two days and Minister's reply in this regard had already been given. You are therefore requested to be brief in making your demands. You need not speak more ..... *(Interruptions)* when your turn comes, I will call you.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : I would like to point out that there are roads adjoining the cities of Dhamdaha, Barahara, Roopoli, Srinagar and Baisi to Purnea district which have been damaged. All the culverts have also been damaged. Though I feel totally exhausted in making this point repeatedly yet there is no one to listen our case. The Collector of the area Shri Shisher Sinha says that the House and Members of Parliament have nothing to do with all these matters. Mr.Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would request you to direct the Government to repair the roads there, keeping in view the